

REMARKS

Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his indication of the allowability of claims 1-21 in the above-noted Official Action under *Ex Parte Quayle*. In view of the herein contained remarks and the enclosed Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the claims now pending is in condition for allowance.

In the above-noted Official Action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-21 were in condition for allowance except for formal matters. Accordingly, prosecution as to the merits was closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*. In particular, the claims 1-21 were rejected under the (nonstatutory) judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent No. 6,718,028. In view of the remarks contained herein and the Terminal Disclaimer being filed with the present response, Applicants respectfully submit that the outstanding rejection has been rendered moot, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-21 and a confirmation of the allowability of all the pending claims.

Applicants are filing the attached terminal disclaimer merely to remove any issue as to whether the claims of the above-identified application and those of U.S. Patent No. 6,718,028 in any way conflict. However, neither applicants nor the assignee intend to make any representation as to whether any obviousness-type double patenting rejection would be appropriate if the enclosed terminal disclaimer were not filed. Accordingly, the terminal disclaimer is being filed only to expedite the allowance of the pending claims.

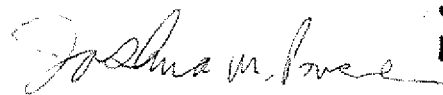
In view of the herein contained remarks and the attached Terminal Disclaimer, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the Official Action under *Ex Parte Quayle* of May 17, 2006, together with an indication of the allowance of all pending claims. Such action is respectfully requested and is believed to be appropriate and proper.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicants have submitted a Terminal Disclaimer merely to remove any issue as to whether the claims of the above-identified application and those of U.S. Patent No. 6,718,028 in any way conflict. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection set forth in the outstanding Official Action under *Ex Parte Quayle* and allowance of the present application and all the claims pending are respectfully requested.

Should there be any comments or questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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